Board of Trade Journal

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COMMONWEALTH WOOL SUPPLIES AND THE DEFENCE PROGRAMME

THE OPPORTUNITY provided by the presence in London of representatives of Australia, New Zealand and South Africa for the recent Wool Study Group meeting has been used for discussions with the United Kingdom Government on the present and prospective supply position of wool. These Commonwealth discussions were continued with representatives of the United States of America when special attention was devoted to the demands arising for military requirements and the impact which these demands are likely to have on the market for wool. Other North Atlantic Treaty Powers with a substantial interest in wool have been kept informed of the progress of these discussions.

The Wool Study Group has reported its view that the general effect of increased consumer resistance to rising prices of wool goods, of increased substitution and of other factors, will be to bridge the gap between the recent rate of consumption and future supplies of wool. With this conclusion the representatives of the Governments referred to above are in agreement so far as overall supplies of wool are concerned. They do not consider that there would be justification under such conditions for an allocation system for wool, which would in any event present a great many practical and legal difficulties.

The analysis of the problem which has been made indicates that the main supply problem over the next twelve months will concern a particular range of qualities and types, especially the finer cross-breds and medium merino wools. This is because the principal requirement for military purposes appears to fall in this range. Much the heaviest military demand in these grades is that presented by the United States of America, and the representatives of the five Governments concerned have concentrated their attention on the practical problem which this presents.

The United States of America will, of course, obtain supplies from various sources but it was agreed that the three southern Commonwealth countries would immediately investigate the practicability of introducing special measures to ensure the provision of their agreed share of the United States emergency reserve. In this connection a system of pre-emption of enough wool to meet the emergency needs of the United States of America (but not such quantities as would harm the auction system) will be examined by missions to be sent from the United Kingdom and the United States of America to the southern Commonwealth countries. If a practicable and acceptable system can be devised the three southern Commonwealth countries are willing to introduce it with the least possible delay unless some alternative method of securing the United States military requirements for an emergency reserve is found more satisfactory.

There is, of course, no question of the system of wool auctions being displaced. Any wool withheld from auction for military purposes would be strictly limited in amount.

The United States authorities wish it to be known that they do not intend to stockpile raw wool; supplies for their emergency reserve, as well as for current military needs, will be processed. After calculating the quantities the United States of America would obtain from other countries both on account of reserve and current requirements, it was estimated that the southern Commonwealth countries' share of the United States emergency reserve would be no greater than 100 million lbs. clean basis; the actual proportion of this which it may be possible and desirable to obtain from the current clip by pre-emption

or otherwise can only be determined at a later stage in the light of further examination of the problem and decision on the period of time over which the reserve will be built up.

The Governments which have taken part in these discussions will co-operate to ensure, consistent with defence needs, the best pattern and timing of wool purchases for military requirements, in order that the impact on trade may be as small as possible.

Equal efforts will be made to secure to the United Kingdom and the other Commonwealth countries concerned supplies of scarce materials which they need and the question of how to achieve this will be discussed between the Governments concerned.

New Cloths and Revised Maximum Prices for Women's and Maids' Utility Outerwear

SEVERAL new cloths are being made available for the manufacture of Women's and Maids' Utility dresses and other outerwear by a new Board of Trade Order which will come into operation next Monday (November 6). The same Order also introduces revised maximum prices, including higher maximum prices to allow for the higher cost of some of the new cloths.

Details of the changes are:

Dresses and costumes with unlined jackets. New specifications include the 210G and 219B wool cloths, a number of Northern Ireland spun rayons, and one linen cloth. Specifications for wool dresses and unlined costumes have been assembled into four groups with a maximum price for each group. The top group includes cloths dearer than those used hitherto. Maximum prices for cotton dresses have been raised to allow for the increased price of the cloths. The maximum prices for garments made from the new rayon cloths include three higher figures which allow for the higher cost of the cloths, and the existing maximum price for cloth 1040/1 has also been raised.

Unlined jackets. All the new wool cloths and wool/rayon mixtures are scheduled, as well as worsted cloths. Maximum prices are grouped in six stages.

Skirts. With the addition of the new spun rayon cloths, higher maximum prices have been fixed to allow for the higher cost of some rayon cloths.

Slacks. All wool cloths already permitted for skirts are now scheduled for women's slacks also, and maximum prices are grouped similarly in six stages.

Blouses. As with dresses, the new rayon cloths are scheduled with higher maximum prices for the dearer cloths.

Dressing gowns and housecoats. For these garments, too, the new rayon cloths have been scheduled.

The title of the Order is The Utility Apparel (Women's and Maids' Outerwear) (Manufacture and Supply) (Amendment No. 2) Order, 1950. (S.I. 1950 No. 1743). Copies are obtainable price 3d., by post 4d., from H.M. Stationery Office, Kingsway, London, W.C.2. and branches.

Revision of Hosiery Utility Schedule

THE REVISED Hosiery Utility Schedule which came into operation on October 20, provides that all utility knitted goods must be manufactured in accordance with the principles of good hosiery manufacture which are set out in the new Schedule. To help to ensure that this is done, the President has appointed a Panel of Assessors. The Chairman of the Panel is Mr. Cecil Coleman, C.B.E., formerly Hosiery Controller, and the members are:- Mr. R. K. Bennett (Bennett Bros., Hinckley); Mr. R. W. Kempton, O.B.E. (T. W. Kempton Ltd., Leicester); Mr. S. H. Mackinnon (S. H. Mackinnon & Co. Ltd., Glasgow); Mr. B. Montgomery (Lyle & Scott Ltd., Hawick); Mr. A. E. Rossiter (A. E. Rossiter Ltd., Leicester); Mr. G. H. Spencer, J.P. (G. Spencer Ltd., Nottingham); Mr. H. P. Watson (N. Corah & Sons Ltd., Leicester); and Mr. H. E. Williams (Aristoc Ltd., Langley Mill, Nottingham).

THE TERMS of reference of the Panel are as follows:-

To maintain supervision over the types of Utility knitted goods manufactured with a view to ensuring that they are made in accordance with the principles of good hosiery manufacture contained in any schedule of Utility knitted goods issued by the Board of Trade.

To report and make recommendations to the Board of Trade in cases where it appears that Utility hosiery has not been made in accordance with those principles.

To advise the Board of Trade on any matters relating to the manufacture of Utility hosiery.

The Panel will work in close collaboration with the Central Committee for the Hosiery Industry, which will continue its work in negotiating on prices and specifications for Utility knitted goods. The Chairman of the Central Committee (Mr. T. W. Kempton, O.B.E.) is also a member of the Panel. The members of the Central Committee are as follows:-

Mr. T. W. Kempton, O.B.E., (T. W. Kempton Ltd., Leicester) (Chairman);
Mr. A. L. Miller (Wolsey Ltd., Leicester), (Vice-Chairman);
Mr. W. Grimmond, M.B.E. (J. Grimmond Ltd., Glasgow); Mr. W. J. Lorrimer (Pool, Lorrimer & Taberrer Ltd., Leicester); Mr. J. Pettigrew, M.B.E. (P. Scott & Co. Ltd., Hawick); and Mr. R. Taylor (Burd & Yeoman Ltd., Earl Shilton.)

Interim Index of Industrial Production

THE PROVISIONAL Index of Industrial Production for August 1950, for industrial production as a whole is 125, compared with 134 for July. Other provisional figures for August published by the Central Statistical Office are Mining and quarrying 93, Manufacturing industries 130, Building and contracting 130 and Gas, electricity and water 96.

DETAILED INDICES for July 1950, in the same order as those published on page 613 of the issue of the *Board of Trade Journal* of September 30 are 134; 106; 139; n.a., 139, 161; 134; 149, 119, 123, 152, 176, 104, n.a.; 128, 136, 117; n.a.; 111, 122, 96; n.a.; 160; 143; 141; 100.

Rayon Output and Deliveries during September

OUTPUT OF the rayon industry during September was 32.9 million lbs., 26 per cent. higher than in the previous month and 22 per cent. more than a year earlier. Continuous filament rose by 15 per cent. to 17.0 million lbs., and staple fibre by 41 per cent. to 15.9 million lbs. During the third quarter total production was 1 per cent. lower than in the second due to a fall of 5 per cent. in staple fibre, continuous filament rising by 3 per cent; the monthly rates for the quarter July to September were: Continuous filament 16.2, staple fibre 14.0, Total 30.2. This total compares with 24.4 million lbs. in the third quarter of last year.

Deliveries of rayon yarn to the home trade during July to September were 2 per cent. lower than in the previous three months, total deliveries falling by 3 per cent.

Actual deliveries during the third quarter, in thousand lbs., were: Weaving 20,564, Hosiery 4,174, Warp knitting 5,851, Narrow fabrics 1,224, Lace 532, Industrial purposes 8,664, Miscellaneous 900, Exports as yarn 5,346, Total 47,255.

Extension of Open General Licence and Amendments

IN ACCORDANCE with the statements on the policy of import relaxations made by the President in the House of Commons on September 29 and December 15, 1949, and by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Sir Stafford Cripps) on July 11, 1950, the Board of Trade announce in Notice to Importers No. 412 that, with effect from November 1, 1950, the Open General Licence referred to in Notice to Importers No. 401, Appendix II, has been extended to include the following goods consigned from and originating in any country or territory other than Albania, Argentina, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, French Somaliland, Germany (Russian Zone), Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iran, Japan, Korea, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Roumania, Switzerland, Tangier, United States of America, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia:-

Group 1 - Part A - Food, Drink, etc.
Cocoa, raw; Dates; Onions in syrup.
Group 2 - Mineral Products and Metals
Under "Metals, the following:-" added "Chromium".
Under "Metals, powdered, the following:-" added "Iron".
Under "Ores and concentrates, the following:-" added "Carnallite, anhydrous".
Group 5 - Chemicals, Drugs, etc.
Iron carbonate
Iron perchloride
Plastic materials, the following:-
Synthetic resins, solid and liquid, including adhesives - Acrylic resins; Melamine resins; Phenol, cresol and urea formaldehyde resins; Polystyrene resins; Vinyl resins.
Moulding powders - Acrylic; Cellulose acetate; Melamine; Phenol, cresol and urea formaldehyde; Polystyrene; Vinyl.
Film, foil, rods, rolls, sheets, strips, tubes and profile shapes - Acrylic; Casein; Cellulose acetate; Celluloid; Polystyrene; Vinyl.
Polyisobutylene.
Group 6 - Textiles, Yarns, etc.
Lamé fabric, being brocaded fabric woven wholly or in part from textile yarns spun with metal or covered with metal, but not containing lace or lace net or more than 5 per cent. of cashmere or silk.
Ramie yarn.
Group 13 - Metal Manufactures, etc.
Horseshoes
Safes and strong room doors.
Group 15 - Books, Stationery, Fancy Goods, etc.
Under "Hardware and ironmongery of the following descriptions:-" added "Wallplugs, expanding, of all kinds".
Under "Toilet requisites, etc." added "Cuticle clippers and nippers".

The Open General Licence relates to goods *consigned from and originating in* any of the permitted sources; thus, goods consigned from one of the permitted countries and originating in another permitted country are covered, but not goods originating in any of the excepted countries, even if consigned from one of the permitted countries.

Wherever it is proposed to import from one country goods originating in another, the Exchange Control Authorities should be consulted through the medium of the importer's bankers, before any commitments are entered into.

Further, with effect from November 1, 1950, the Open General Licence referred to above, has been amended as follows:-

Group 1 - Part A - Food, Drink, etc.
Under "Confectionery and bakery materials" the item "Fondant and Chocolate fondant" has been deleted
Group 2 - Mineral Products and Metals
The heading and items under "Abrasives, the following:-" have been deleted and substituted therefor:- "Abrasives, crude, ground or graded"
Group 3 - Oils, Waxes, Gums, etc.
Under "Gums and resins, the following:-" item "Copal resin (Pontianak or Manila)" to read "Copal resin (Congo, Pontianak or Manila)".
Group 5 - Chemical, Drugs, etc.
Item "Camphor, natural" to read "Camphor, natural or synthetic".
Item "Dyeing and tanning substances, natural, and extracts therefrom; etc.". to read "Dyeing and tanning substances, natural, and extracts therefrom; not including spruce sulphite extract, sulphite cellulose and sulphite lye".
The following items have been deleted:-
Casein plastic material in the form of sheets, rods, tubes, film and foil
Celluloid film, foil, rods, rolls, sheets, strips, tubes and profile shapes
Cellulose acetate film, foil, rods, rolls, sheets, strips, tubes and profile shapes
Cellulose acetate moulding and extrusion materials
Phenol and cresol formaldehyde moulding powders and resins
Polyvinyl chloride
Urea formaldehyde moulding powders and resins
(See fresh item above - Plastic materials, the following:-)
Group 6 - Textiles, Yarns, etc.
Item "Fabrics, woven, not exceeding 18 inches in width, and not containing more than 5 per cent. silk and not containing lace or lace net" to read "Fabrics, woven or braided, cord and trimmings, not exceeding 18 inches in width and not containing lace or lace net or more than 5 per cent. cashmere or silk".
Group 16 - Furskins, Wood and Manufactures, etc.
Under "Wood and manufactures, etc." item "Tool handles" to read "Tool handles and parts thereof".

Forthcoming Ministry of Supply Auction Sales

Nov. 7-8.	Miscellaneous stores and equipment at M.O.S. Depot, Burghfield, Nr. Reading.	Auctioneers: Simmons & Sons, 12, Station Road, Reading.
Nov. 14-15.	Miscellaneous stores and equipment at M.O.S. Depot, Elstow, Kempston Hardwick, Bedford.	Auctioneers: Peacock, Merry & Swaffield, 10, Lime Street, Bedford.
Nov. 16.	Miscellaneous radio and electrical equipment at R.A.F.M.U. No. 3, Kingston Bagpuize, Berks.	Auctioneers: Adkin, Belcher & Bowen, 10, High Street, Abingdon.
Nov. 21-22.	Vehicles at M.O.S. Depot, Thorp Arch, Nr. Boston Spa, Yorks.	Auctioneers: Hepper & Sons, 17a, East Parade, Leeds.

Catalogues are obtainable from the Auctioneers, price sixpence (POSTAL ORDERS ONLY).

Prices of Utility Shake-up Beds

The Board of Trade have made an Order which further amends the Bedding (Manufacture and Supply) Order, 1950, as amended.

The amending Order, which comes into operation on November 6, provides specifications and manufacturers' maximum prices for Utility shake-up beds. A new ticking, Utility specification No. 7584, is introduced for use on mattresses and the letters of the Grade Symbol for Utility bed settee mattresses have been changed from "BS" to "UBS".

Copies of the Order (S.I. 1950 No. 1727, price 2d. by post 3d.) are available from H.M. Stationery Office, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and branches.

Registrations of British and Foreign Films

THE FOLLOWING are details of films registered by the Board of Trade under the Cinematograph Films Acts 1938 and 1948 during the week ended Tuesday, October 24, 1950:-

Title of Film	Registered in the name of	Maker's Name	Registered No.	Length (feet)	Date of Registration
		BRITISH			
The Grand Duchy	Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures Ltd.	British Foundation Pictures Ltd.	BR/E14453	1,475	October 20
Stuff For Stuff	"	National Film Board of Canada	BR/E14454	914	October 20
Eye Witness No. 15	International Film Distributors Ltd.	National Film Board of Canada	BR/E14457	950	October 20
This Modern Age No. 39 Future of One Million Africans	General Film Distributors Ltd.	This Modern Age Ltd.	BR/E14460	1,934	October 23
The Magnet	General Film Distributors Ltd.	Ealing Studios Ltd.	BR/E14461	7,028	October 23
		FOREIGN			
Bruce Gentry Episode 1. The Mysterious Disc.	Columbia Pictures Corp. Ltd.	Columbia Pictures International Corp.	F14437	1,907	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 2. The Mine of Menace	"	"	F14438	1,576	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 3. Fiery Furnace	"	"	F14439	1,407	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 4. Grade Crossing	"	"	F14440	1,535	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 5. Danger Trail	"	"	F14441	1,409	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 6. A Fight for Life	"	"	F14442	1,482	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 7. The Flying Disc.	"	"	F14443	1,511	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 8. Fate Takes the Wheel	"	"	F14444	1,394	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 9. Hazardous Heights	"	"	F14445	1,502	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 10. Waters of Doom	"	"	F14446	1,516	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 11. Gentry at Bay	"	"	F14447	1,547	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 12. Parachute of Peril	"	"	F14448	1,514	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 13. Menace of the Mesa	"	"	F14449	1,503	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 14. Bruce's Strategy	"	"	F14450	1,497	October 18
Bruce Gentry Episode 15. The Final Disc.	"	"	F14451	1,500	October 18

BR/E indicates that the film is an Exhibitors' Quota film.

Owing to the printing dispute, it is not possible to publish a complete list of the films registered during the week ending October 24, nor a list of the films registered during the week ending October 31. Details will be published as soon as possible. Meanwhile copies of the complete lists may be obtained from Films Branch, Board of Trade, I.C. House, Millbank, London, S.W.1.

Purchase Tax Announcement

IN CONSULTATION with the British Plastics Federation, the Commissioners of Customs and Excise have reviewed the liability to Purchase Tax of rigid, non-flexible, transparent celluloid and cellulose acetate cases. These cases are used, according to size, to hold, e.g. season tickets, documents and menus.

Cases of the above description, with or without thumbholes and whether or not overprinted may, in future, be regarded as chargeable with tax as follows:-

Cases, the measurements of which do not exceed 6½ inches along one side and 4 inches along the other. Chargeable as being suitable for personal or domestic purposes at the rate of 66⅔ per cent under Group 23(a).

Cases, the measurements of which exceed 6½ inches along one side and 4 inches along the other. Chargeable as "stationery and office requisites" at the rate of 33⅓ per cent under Group 34(b).

Customs and Excise Notice No. 78 should be noted accordingly at pages 50 and 69.

Boys' leggings

With reference to item B.23 on page 5 of Notice No. 78A the exemption for boys' leggings will in future be regarded as extending to leggings with a calf measurement of 14½ inches when measured from *edge to edge* on the inside, at the widest part of the calf. The Explanatory Note about leggings on page 9 of the Notice still applies.

Customs and Excise Notice No. 78A, at page 5, should be noted accordingly.

Volume of United Kingdom Trade in the Third Quarter of 1950

THE VOLUME OF United Kingdom exports in the third quarter was 161 per cent. of the 1947 average compared with 153 per cent. in the second quarter and 157 per cent. in the first quarter. Exports of manufactured goods in the third quarter were 60 per cent. in volume above the average for 1947, the increase for metal goods being 63 per cent., for textiles 47 per cent. and for other manufactures 69 per cent. The volume index of imports was 111 (1947=100), compared with 122 in the second quarter and 110 in the first quarter, while the volume index of retained imports was 111 in the third quarter.

These measurements are based on the volume index numbers arrived at by estimating the value of trade in the third quarter at the average values (prices) of the base year 1947. Tables giving more detailed figures for the third quarter will appear in a future issue of the *Board of Trade Journal*.

Increase in Purchases under the Personal Export Scheme in July

THE VALUE of goods purchased under the Personal Export Scheme in July 1950 by visitors to the United Kingdom was £304,000, an increase of 14 per cent. over June. In addition, United Kingdom emigrants, who are also entitled to participate in the scheme, spent £34,000 which was substantially the same as in the previous month.

Purchases by visitors from the Americas, including Canada, totalled £119,000, a decrease of 9 per cent. compared with June and a reduction to 39 per cent. of the amount spent by all visitors. Of the sum of £119,000, United States visitors were responsible for 69 per cent. (£82,000). Visitors from Commonwealth countries, excluding Canada, on the other hand, increased their purchases to £91,000, 39 per cent. more than in the earlier month.

Clothing accounted for 78 per cent. of all purchases of which 88 per cent. were made in London.

Imports from Switzerland and Liechtenstein

IN ACCORDANCE with the statements on policy of import relaxations made by the President of the Board of Trade in the House of Commons on September 29 and December 15, 1949, and by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Stafford Cripps on July 11, 1950, about further relaxations of import restrictions, the Board of Trade announce (in Notice to Importers No. 413) that, with effect from November 1, 1950, the Open General Licence referred to in Notice to Importers No. 401, Appendices II, III and VI, as subsequently amended by Notices to Importers No. 405 and 412 has been extended to Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

The Open General Licence relates *to goods consigned from and originating in* any of the permitted sources; thus, goods consigned from one of the permitted countries and originating in another permitted country are covered, but not goods originating in any of the excepted countries even if consigned from one of the permitted countries. As to the import of fresh fish, attention is drawn to Appendix VI of Notice to Importers No. 401.

Wherever it is proposed to import from one country goods originating in another, the Exchange Control Authorities should be consulted, through the medium of the importer's bankers, before any commitments are entered into.

In Notice to Importers Nos. 352, 356 and 404, the Board of Trade announced that they would be prepared to consider applications for open individual licences for the import of hardwood, furniture and petroleum products respectively which were consigned from and originated in any country or territory other than those excepted and listed in the Notices. The Board of Trade now announce that it is prepared to delete Switzerland and, where necessary, Liechtenstein from the list of excepted countries. Holders of such licences who desire their licences to be extended to include imports of hardwood, furniture or petroleum products from Switzerland and, in the case of petroleum products from Liechtenstein should return the licences for amendment to the Board of Trade, Import Licensing Department, Romney House, Tufton Street, London, S.W.1.

Wool Textile Industry Orders

THE BOARD of Trade have made the Wool Textile Industry (Scientific Research Levy) Order, 1950, and the Wool Textile Industry (Export Promotion Levy) (Amendment) Order, 1950, both of which came into force on November 1, 1950. Copies may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, York House, Kingsway, London W.C.2. or through any bookseller or newsagent.

The Scientific Research Levy Order, which was approved by both Houses of Parliament on October 24, imposes on the wool textile industry a levy estimated to produce between £100,000 and £120,000 a year. The money will be collected by the Board of Trade and paid by them to the Wool Textile Research Council to meet expenses incurred by the Council on scientific research carried out for the general benefit of the industry.

The Export Promotion Levy (Amendment) Order, which was also approved by both Houses of Parliament on October 24, varies the Wool Textile Industry (Export Promotion Levy) Order, 1950, (S.I. 1950 No. 1303) by imposing a levy on tops and broken tops, made from fibre which has been imported or bought at auction, which are consumed in spinning or in the manufacture of pressed felt.

Maximum Prices for Carpets

In the announcement in last week's *Board of Trade Journal* (page 699) about increased maximum prices for carpets, it was stated that:-

(a) the maximum prices for manufacturers and wholesalers of carpets were being increased from October 30 by 15 per cent, but the maximum retail prices of carpets (commonly known as the "ceiling" prices) were being increased from the same date by only about 12½ per cent; and

(b) the permitted retail margin was to be reduced from 36⅔ per cent to 33⅓ per cent, but this reduction would not become operative until January 1, 1951.

The Board of Trade wish to make it clear that (b) above does not over-ride (a). That is to say the retail margin for existing stocks will remain unchanged until January 1 next; but in the case of new stocks which are bought from the manufacturer by the retailer at the manufacturer's new maximum prices, the operation of the new retail "ceilings" will at once have the effect of restricting the retail margin to 33⅓ per cent.

Re-Export of Silk Goods. In connection with statements in the Press about greater freedom in the use of silk, the Board of Trade wishes to remind importers that most licences which are issued for the importation of silk goods are subject to a condition that 50 per cent will be re-exported.

This condition remains unchanged and undertakings which have been given for such import licences should be fulfilled.

Another Record Production of Cotton Yarn. Production of cotton, spun rayon and mixture yarns, for the second week in succession, was a new post-war "record". The production of 21.84 million lbs. for the week ended October 14 beat the previous highest of 21.65 million lbs. in the preceding week. Total production for the 41 weeks ended October 14 was 822.91 million lbs., against 770.58 million lbs. in the corresponding period last year. The number of operatives at work in the week ended October 14 increased to 110,740, compared with 110,480 in the previous week.

Jewellery and Silverware Council. The President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Harold Wilson, has appointed Mr. H. J. Cropp of Messrs. Cropp & Farr, Ltd., Hatton Garden, London, to be a member of the Jewellery and Silverware Council (the Development Council for the industry). Mr. Cropp takes the place of Mr. A. Music who has resigned his membership, and represents the interests of the manufacturers of fine jewellery. He will hold office until December 31, 1951.

Scottish Council of Industrial Design. The President of the Board of Trade has appointed Mr. Ronald Bell, Mr. David Maitland Gardner, Mr. William Grimmond, and Mr. J. Crawford McKell, to be members of the Scottish Committee of the Council of Industrial Design.

OVERSEAS TRADE SECTION

Removal of Trading with the Enemy Restrictions on Certain German Copyright

THE UNDER-MENTIONED Orders have been made under the Trading with the Enemy Act, 1939:-

(1) Trading with the Enemy (Authorisation) (Germany) Order, 1950. (S.I. 1950 No. 1728).
(2) Trading with the Enemy (Transfer of Negotiable Instruments etc.) (Germany) Order, 1950. (S.I. 1950 No. 1729).
(3) Trading with the Enemy (Custodian) (Amendment) (Germany) Order, 1950. (S.I. 1950 No. 1730).

The general trading orders for Germany issued as S.I. Nos. 605 - 7 of 1949 on March 29, 1949 freed from Trading with the Enemy restrictions all trade with Germany except in respect of German property and property rights existing in the United Kingdom on that date. Since literary, dramatic, musical and artistic works, which enjoy copyright protection in Germany, automatically enjoy protection in the United Kingdom, all such works in existence on March 29, 1949, remained subject to Board of Trade and Custodian control and any income derived from the exercise in the United Kingdom of the copyright in such works was payable to the Custodian of Enemy Property.

The present Orders which became operative on October 27, have the effect of freeing from Board of Trade, Treasury and Custodian control copyright in any literary, musical, dramatic or artistic work originating in Germany copies of which have not been made available for sale to the public in the United Kingdom before the date of these Orders or which has not been the subject of a licence granted by the Comptroller General of Patents under the Patents, Designs Copyright and Trade-Marks (Emergency) Act, 1939.

Copies of the Orders can be obtained, price 1d. each (by post 2d. each) from H.M. Stationery Office, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and branches.

Spain-Chile Trade and Payments Agreement

A NEW TRADE and payments Agreement between Spain and Chile, valid for 3 years and tacitly renewable, was signed on August 9, 1950.

Most-favoured-nation treatment for goods previously granted will be continued and will be extended to special exchange rates for imports and exports. Chile will sell to Spain a minimum amount of 200,000 tons of nitrate and 3,000 tons of copper in the form of concentrates, cement and blister. These purchases will be paid for by the export of Spanish goods including sherry but should Spain require refined copper, payment must be made in U.S. dollars.

Settlement will be made through an account in U.S. dollars opened in the name of the Banco Central de Chile with the Spanish Foreign Exchange Institute. Reciprocal overdraft facilities of $1 m. have been granted.

Nigerian Customs Tariff Modifications. The Customs (Amendment of Import Duties) Resolution, 1950, amends Part I of the First Schedule of the Nigerian Customs Tariff by the addition of the following item:-

23A.	Paper:		
	(1) Newsprint in reels or in the flat	the cwt.	4s. 0d.
	(2) Printing paper, namely: plain or composite paper in reels of not less than 9 inches wide, or flat and folded in the original mill ream wrapper, of a size not less than 16 inches by 15 inches,	ad val.	10%
	(3) Other paper and paper manufactures not particularly exempted from duty in Part III of this Schedule,	ad val.	20%

Part III of the First Schedule is amended by the deletion of the words "engine parts", in item 32.

Modification of French Customs Tariff. Notices in the French *Journal Officiel* of October 10 and October 17, 1950, suspend the customs duties on Tariff No. 387A Ammonia gas (anhydrous) and Tariff No. 919 Yarn of wool or fine hair, carded or combed, pure or mixed, prepared for retail sale. The descriptions attaching to Tariff No. 461 Carbides and Tariff No. 690 Other chemical preparations, are slightly amended. The official French texts may be seen at the Board of Trade, Commercial Relations and Exports Department (Industries Branch), Room 1116, Thames House (North), Millbank, London, S.W.1. (Telephone: Victoria 9040, Ext. 3236).

Italian Import Licensing Regulations. The *Italian Official Gazette* of September 28, publishes a Ministerial Decree dated September 20 which gives a list of goods on which import licensing restrictions have been removed in respect of imports from the United Kingdom and other Organisation for European Economic Co-operation countries. This list is additional to that already published in the *Board of Trade Journals* of September 23 and 30 pages 580 and 627. A copy of the *Italian Official Gazette* dated September 28, 1950 is available for inspection in Commercial Relations and Exports Department (Tariff Section). Room 3122, Thames House (North), Millbank, S.W.1.

Restoration of Import Duties in Irish Republic. Notice No. 563 issued by the Irish Republic Revenue Commissioners provides for the restoration, as from October 13, 1950, of the customs duty on Christmas crackers (Tariff Ref. No. 53/1), and Christmas stockings, snowballs, Easter eggs, etc. (Tariff Ref. No. 53/2), and, where applicable, on cocoa preparations (Tariff Ref. No. 59), dolls (Tariff Ref. No. 72/2), package duty (Tariff Ref. No. 166), sugar, etc., articles (Tariff Ref. No. 243/1), sugar confectionery (Tariff Ref. No. 244/1), and toys (Tariff Ref. No. 252/1).

Import Restrictions on Railway Axles in Mexico. The Mexican order suspending the import restriction on railway axles under Tariff No. 3, 25, 35, due to expire on September 30, 1950, has been extended until further notice by the Mexican Ministry of Finance. (The previous notice was published in the *Board of Trade Journal* on July 1, 1950 page 56).

Southern Rhodesian Import Control. Government Notice No. 900, published in the *Southern Rhodesia Government Gazette* on October 6, 1950, removes import control on goods manufactured in the Tri-Zonal Area of Germany.

Nigerian Import Prohibitions. For information on prohibited imports of drugs into Nigeria enquiries should be addressed to Commercial Relations & Exports Department, Tariff Section, Room 1087, Thames House (North), Millbank, London, S.W.1. Telephone Victoria 9040, Ext. 3025.

Import Licensing in the Gold Coast and Nigeria. Enquiries for latest information regarding import licences for the Gold Coast and Nigeria should be addressed to Commercial Relations and Exports Department, Tariff Section, Room 1087, Thames House (North), Millbank, London, S.W.1. Telephone: Victoria 9040, Ext. 3025.

Imports of Alfalfa Meal from South Africa. The Ministry of Food, in agreement with the Board of Trade, announces that applications to import a limited quantity of South African alfalfa meal will now be considered. Applications should now be submitted to the Import Licensing Branch, Board of Trade, Romney House, Tufton Street, London, S.W.1., but for administrative convenience, they should be sent through the Ministry of Food, Animal Feeding Stuffs Division, Portman Court, Portman Square, London, W.1. Applications should be made on the Board of Trade form ILD/A, which may be obtained from the Import Licensing Branch or the usual Customs Offices. They should reach the Ministry of Food not later than November 11, 1950.

Latest Times of Posting for Overseas Air Mail Services. The Postmaster General announces that, consequent upon the introduction of British Overseas Airways Corporation's winter timetables, the latest times of posting of air mail correspondence for Portugal and most countries outside Europe will be altered as from November 1, and in some cases November 7. Full details of the changes may be obtained on application at any post office.

Information for United Kingdom Exporters

ENQUIRIES CONNECTED with the tender documents mentioned in this notice should be addressed to the Commercial Relations and Exports Department (Industries Branch), Thames House (North), Millbank, London, S.W.1. Telephone VICtoria 9040. The appropriate room numbers and telephone extensions are as indicated.

Calls for the following tenders have been reported to the Department. The closing date in each case is shown in brackets.

AUSTRALIA. By the State Electricity Commission at Brisbane (Tender No. 247) for a wood burning gas producer for the Charleville power house (20.12.50). Information can be obtained from Room 1073, Extension 3047. Reference CRE (IB) 68221/50.

In the following three cases the closing date for the receipt of tenders has been extended as follows:-

Tender	New Closing Date	Date of previous announcement in *Board of Trade Journal*	Reference
Two water-driven turbo-alternators for the Electricity Commission, Queensland.	20.12.50	16.9.50	CRE (IB) 64303/50
Switchgear equipment for Tully Falls.	17. 1.51	30.9.50	CRE (IB) 64886/50
Water tube boiler for Electricity Commission, Queensland.	15.11.50	22.7.50	CRE (IB) 59114/50

In connection with the call for 3 oxygen separation plants for Morwell, Victoria (see *Board of Trade Journal* of October 7, 1950), additional and alternative specifications have been received and are available in Room 1073 (Ext. 2765). Reference CRE (IB) 65171/50.

SOUTH AFRICA. Calls for tenders by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Johannesburg, for:-

43 loading pots for telephone cable (23.11.50). Information is available in Room 1080 (Ext. 3012). Reference CRE (IB) 68475/50.

2,000 timemeters for timing telephone calls (23.11.50). Information is available in Room 1080 (Ext. 3012). Reference CRE (IB) 68500/50.

Date of tender for various types of abrasive cleaning plant for South African Railways has been extended to November 30, 1950, (vide *Board of Trade Journal* of October 21, 1950). Reference CRE (IB) 67071/50.

By the Electricity Department of the City of Cape Town for the supply and delivery of overhead line equipment (18.1.51). Full details are available in Room 1118 (Extension 3046). Reference C.R.E. (IB) 68619/50.

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK. For the supply of 12 console units and 60 simultaneous interpretation units (30.11.50). Copy of specifications and tender forms are available in Room 1080 (Ext. 3012). Reference CRE (IB) 68126/50.

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA. For a generating set for power supply for the town of Bela Vista, Maputo. Offers must be submitted by November 9, 1950, to the Purchasing Commission, Mozambique Treasury Department, Lourenco Marques (Tender No. 136). Full details are available in Room 1095 (Ext. 3077). Reference CRE (IB) 68231/50.

INDIA. For the supply of 132 kV power line equipment and V.H.F. radio equipment for the Machkund Hydro-Electric Scheme (15.12.50). Full details are available in Room 1080 (Ext. 3012). Reference CRE (IB) 66623/50.

Greek Liberalization Measures

NOTIFICATION of further additions and amendments to the list of goods freed from quantitative restrictions under the Greek Government's liberalization of trade measures has been received in the Board of Trade. Particulars are as follows:-

Goods which may be imported without quantitative restrictions from countries participating in the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (except Turkey) and from Yugoslavia, Cyrenaica, Iraq and Syria:-

Tariff No.	*Commodity*
1 (e)	Sheep for breeding.

Goods which may be imported without quantitative restrictions from countries participating in O.E.E.C. and from countries with which Greece has clearing agreements:-

Tariff No.	*Commodity*
1 (b) 2	Milking cattle (for use in the provinces of Greece), imports to be effected by May 15, 1951.

Imports of the above two items are subject to stringent conditions regarding the health of the animals.

The regulations covering imports of wool from O.E.E.C. countries and non-participating countries in the sterling area (announced in the *Board of Trade Journal* on April 29, 1950 page 889) have been amended and only the following grades remain free from quantitative restrictions:

Tariff No.	*Commodity*
233 (a), (b), (c)	Raw wool, wool for tops and tops, up to and including No. 58's.

The import of superior grades are now subject to the issue of import licences.

Indian Import Control

THE FOLLOWING information about India's import regulations has been received:-

Woollen Shawl Cloth. The effect of a notice of September 25 is to transfer woollen shawl cloth from Part IV Item 205 to Part IV Item 187 of the Indian Import Trade Control Schedule.

Freely Licensed Items. A public notice issued on October 17 states that applications from all categories of importers in respect of freely licensable items during the period July-December 1950 may be made to the licensing authorities up to November 30, 1950.

"Vynide" or other Fire Proof Leather Cloth. (Part IV Serial No. 147 of the Indian Import Trade Control Schedule). A public notice of October 16 stated that it has now been decided that licenses for "Vynide" or other fire proof leather cloth should be granted to established importers during the July-December 1950 period on the basis of a quota of 40 per cent. of half of their best years imports of all types of leather cloth from all sources. Applications should reach the authorities not later than November 15, 1950.

Special Exchange rates for Spanish exports

The Spanish Government have announced the following special exchange rates for exports:-

Commodity	Rate: Pesetas to £ sterling	Effective as from:
Sweet oranges.	61.320	17.10.50
Table wines, bottled, full bodied sweet and dry wines; brandy; spirits (compound and liqueurs).	76.650	20.10.50

These rates supersede those previously published in the *Board of Trade Journal* of February 25, 1950, (p. 411) and October 22, 1949, (pp. 792 - 793) for these commodities.

Italian Import Licensing Arrangements

THE ITALIAN Ministry of Foreign Trade has issued a circular No. 447050 dated August 31, 1950, which cancels earlier circulars relating to List "S" imports from the sterling area and substitutes a revised List "S Import" of goods which may be imported from the United Kingdom, Scheduled Territories or assimilated countries, ex-Italian colonies (excluding Somaliland) or other countries to which the application of the list is explicitly extended, without licence against payment in sterling.

Circular No. 449208 of August 23, 1950 issued by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Trade stated that various fatty materials could temporarily be imported without import licence from countries with which Italy had a trade agreement on a clearing and reciprocity basis, from the United Kingdom, Scheduled Territories, assimilated countries and Libya, Eritrea and Iran.

The text (in Italian) of the notice in the Italian *"Informazioni per il Commercio Estero"* reporting the above circulars may be seen on application to Commercial Relations and Exports Department, Tariff Section, Board of Trade, (Room 3122), Thames House (North), Millbank, London, S.W.1.

A translation of these circulars has been issued in the Special Register Service of Information. United Kingdom exporters can obtain copies on application to the Special Register Service of Information, Board of Trade, Thames House (North), Millbank, London, S.W.1.

Standards Agreement on United Kingdom Electrical Exports to Canada

IT WAS announced in the *Board of Trade Journal* of December 10, 1949 (page 1156) that, resulting from the delegation which visited Canada on behalf of the British Standards Institution, the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association, the (British) Machine Tool Trades Association, the (British) Cable Makers' Association, and Manufacturers of machine-tool electrics, arrangements had been agreed, in principle, whereby the British Standards Institution would act as the agent for the Canadian Standards Association in the United Kingdom. It was stated that details were being worked out, and that it was hoped to launch a scheme early in January, 1950.

Since this announcement was made, two Canadian Standards Association engineers have spent some time in the United Kingdom and have assisted the British Standards Institution in setting up this agency. For equipment which is large and which could not easily be transported to the Laboratories in Canada the whole of the testing work is now carried out in firms' works; in addition, a good deal of testing of smaller equipment is done in the United Kingdom. The decision whether smaller equipment shall be tested in Toronto is made by the British Standards Institution engineers when application for approval is made by the manufacturer; this decision varies with different equipment and Canada is asked to do the testing only when it is considered that by this means manufacturers will obtain quicker service.

It is now announced that the Canadian Standards Association Approvals Division, which has hitherto operated under the direction of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, has commenced completely independent operations in newly acquired premises at 77, Florence Street, Toronto. The new premises of the Canadian Standards Association will house, in addition to the staff formerly located at 10, Murray Street, Toronto, the Canadian Standards Association Approvals Laboratory (previously in Strachan Avenue, Toronto) and the Fire Hazard Listing Branch (formerly in Ottawa). By grouping all these divisions under one roof the Canadian Standards Association hope to achieve improved efficiency in Approvals work and a lowering of costs.

United Kingdom manufacturers of electrical equipment should continue to use the facilities provided by the British Standards Institution in the interests of their exports to Canada.

Australian Tariff Board Enquiry into Duty on Cloth and Pressing Machines

The following question has been referred by the Australian Commonwealth Minister of Trade and Customs to the Tariff Board for enquiry and report:-

What rate of duty should be imposed on Cloth and Garment Pressing Machines, classifiable under Tariff Items 176(E)(4), 174(X)(58), 176(F)(1) and 449.

United Kingdom Trade Associations or firms wishing to obtain further information with a view to presenting evidence at the enquiry should communicate immediately with the Board of Trade, Commercial Relations and Exports Department, Millbank, London, S.W.1, quoting Reference No. C.R.E.11079/50.

French Liberalisation Measures

THE FRENCH *"Journal Officiel"* of October 13, 1950, adds the following items to the list of goods which may be imported free of licence into France, Algeria, Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Reunion, Martinique, French Oceania, St. Pierre and Miquelon:

Lime, except pure lime, crude, crushed or pulverised:

287B Hydraulic lime.

288 Binder and hydraulic cement, not pulverised (clinker), and pulverised.

The official French notice is available for inspection at the Board of Trade, Commercial Relations and Exports Department (Industries Branch), Room 1116, Thames House (North), Millbank, London, S.W.1.

Foreign Currency for Imports into Spain. According to a Ministerial Order dated October 18 and published on October 22, 1950, the Spanish Government have introduced a new system for obtaining foreign currency for the payment of imports. A proportion of the currency required for essential imports, will be purchased from the Spanish Institute of Foreign Exchange at special exchange rates varying from 45.99 to 61.32 pesetas to the £ sterling, the balance being bought by the importer on the free market. All foreign exchange for non-essential goods must be obtained on the free market.

South African Duty on Cotton Wool. Government Notice No. 2393 published in the *Union of South Africa Government Gazette* No. 4468 of September 29, 1950 provides for the imposition with effect from September 29, 1950 to April 1, 1951, of a temporary special duty of 15 per cent. ad valorem on cotton wool dutiable under Union Tariff item ex 329(2).

Renewal of Chile-Portugal Trade Agreement. Decree No. 6451, published in the *Chilean Diario Oficial* of August 21, 1950, renews and amplifies the Chile-Portugal Trade Agreement which was in force during the first half of this year. A copy of the translation may be seen at the Board of Trade, Commercial Relations and Exports Department, Tariff Section, Thames House (North), Millbank, London, S.W.1.

Sale of German Assets in Spain. Notification has been received from Madrid of the publication in Spain of Orders inviting applications for tenders in respect of Soc. Espanola Explotaciones Mineras, of San Julian de Musques. Interested British firms should communicate with the German Property Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores, Secion de Bloqueo, Plaza Provincial 1, Madrid, as soon as possible.

Pakistan Import Trade Control. The following amendment to the Pakistan Import Trade Control Schedule published in the *Board of Trade Journal* of June 24, 1950, (page 1350), has been notified:-

In Serial No. 6, Group M-1 of Part IV of the Schedule, the words "and spare parts of such machines" shall be added at the end of the entry in column 2.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE

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